

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA

CASE NO.: SC 07-1648
Lower Tribunal No.: 07-64

INQUIRY CONCERNING A
JUDGE, NO. 07-64

RE: RALPH E. ERIKSSON

MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO SHOW CAUSE

Judge **RALPH E. ERIKSSON**, by and through his undersigned counsel, files this motion seeking the entry of an Order extending the time for serving and filing a Response, pursuant to Rule 2.310(b)(2), Florida Rules of Judicial Administration, until April 27, 2009. As grounds, Judge Eriksson alleges the following:

1. On March 12, 2009, the JQC Hearing Panel released its Findings, Conclusions, and Recommendations in a 28-page Report. The gravamen of the Report was to find Judge Eriksson guilty of certain violations of the Code of Judicial Conduct as it relates to Count I and Count III; to find the evidence insufficient to establish the violation alleged in Count II; and to recommend that he be publicly reprimanded but remain on the bench.
2. The above-referenced Report issued following the holding of a lengthy Formal Hearing that began on December 8, 2008, and concluded on

December 10, 2008. As noted on page 8 of the Report, the resulting hearing transcript is 978 pages in length.

3. On March 17, 2009, this Court issued its Order directing Judge Eriksson to show cause on or before April 6, 2009, why the recommended action should not be granted.

4. Judge Eriksson needs and seeks additional time so that he can carefully consider whether or not to file a Responsive pleading, as permitted by Rule 2.310(b)(2); and, if so, make appropriate decisions relating to the precise nature of said pleading.

5. That the present judicial disciplinary action involves issues of significance which have been vigorously litigated in the belief that Judge Eriksson's judicial conduct either did not violate the Code of Judicial Canons at all; or else amounted to a *de minimus* violation, not warranting disciplinary sanction.

6. That the granting of this requested extension of time will not result in prejudice to the opposing side.

7. Michael Schneider, Esq., Special Counsel of the Florida Judicial Qualifications Commission, has been contacted in connection with this extension request. He has indicated there is no objection to the grant of an extension to April 27, 2009, for Judge Eriksson to file a Response pleading.

8. This motion is filed in good faith.

WHEREFORE, Judge RALPH E. ERIKSSON, requests this Court to enter an Order extending the time for serving and filing his Response until April 27, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing extension motion has been furnished by U.S. Mail delivery this 24th day of March, 2009 to:

Judge Thomas B. Freeman
Chairman, Hearing Panel
Florida Judicial Qualifications Commission
14250 49th Street
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